

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00021 030656Z

12

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-11 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /090 W

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1398

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0187

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0021

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD

JAN 26 - FEB 1, 1976

1. SUMMARY: AT THE FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF THE EIGHTH ROUND OF THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS, POLISH REP DABROWA CHARACTERIZED THE DECEMBER 16 WESTERN NUCLEAR OFFER AS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND SAID IT WILL BE DISCUSSED EQUALLY ALONG WITH OTHER PROPOSALS MADE BY PARTICIPANTS. SPEAKING AT THE SAME JANUARY 30 MEETING, CANADIAN REP GRANDE MATCHED THE SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00021 030656Z

CRITERIA FOR AN AGREEMENT MEETING THE AIMS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS

WITH THE EXPANDED WESTERN REDUCTION PROPOSAL AND STATED THAT THE REACTION TO THE LATTER OF THE EASTERN PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE A TEST OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR STRENGTHENING SECURITY IN EUROPE. IN A JANUARY 28 BILATERAL CONVERSATION WITH BELGIAN REP ADRIAENSSEN, POLISH REP SAID EASTERN REPS WOULD POSE FURTHER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ALLIED NUCLEAR OFFER AT NEXT WEEK'S INITIAL INFORMAL SESSION OF THE NEW ROUND. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EIGHTH ROUND OF THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION TALKS BEGAN THE WEEK OF JAN 26. THE FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF THE NEW ROUND TOOK PLACE ON JAN 30, THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS. CANADIAN REP GRANDE AND POLISH REP DABROWA DELIVERED STATEMENTS.

3. IN HIS PLENARY PRESENTATION, POLISH REP REFERRED TO THE DEC 16 WESTERN NUCLEAR OFFER AS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT SAID THE OFFER WAS DEPENDENT ON EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF UNCHANGED WESTERN PROPOSALS FOR ASYMMETRICAL EASTERN REDUCTIONS. THIS HE SAID SUBSTANTIALLY DIMINISHED ITS VALUE AND SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED THE POSSIBILITY OF ITS CONSTRUCTIVE UTILIZATION. POLISH REP SAID THAT EASTERN FREEZE AND FIRST STEP PROPOSALS REMAINED ON THE TABLE AND CALLED FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF WORK TO REACH AN ACCEPTABLE DEFINITION OF FORCES. AT UNEVENTFUL POST-PLENARY PRESS CONFERENCE, POLISH REP CLOSELY ADHERED TO CAUTIOUS TONE AND CONTENT OF HIS PLENARY STATEMENT. IN JAN 28 BILATERAL CONVERSATION WITH BELGIAN REP ADRIAENSSEN, POLISH REP INDICATED THAT EAST INTENDED TO ASK SOME FURTHER QUESTIONS ON THE WESTERN NUCLEAR REDUCTION PROPOSAL IN INITIAL INFORMAL SESSION ON FEB 3.

4. CANADIAN REP GRANDE, SPEAKING FIRST AT THE JAN 30 PLENARY MEETING, OUTLINED THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR AN OUTCOME THAT WOULD MEET THE AGREED AIMS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE PROCEEDED TO MATCH THE WESTERN PROGRAM WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS. GRANDE SAID THAT, AS THE EXPANDED REDUCTION PROPOSAL OF THE WEST FULLY SATISFIED THE CRITERIA FOR STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF ALL PARTICIPANTS WITH NO UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, WESTERN GOVERNMENTS WILL REGARD THE REACTION BY THE EAST TO IT AS A TEST OF EASTERN WILLINGNESS TO AGREE ON EFFECTIVE SECURITY MEASURES

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00021 030656Z

IN EUROPE.

5. IN DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE JAN 30 PLENARY MEETING, THERE WAS A CONSENSUS IN THE AD HOC GROUP THAT THE CAREFUL EASTERN HANDLING OF OPTION III SO FAR IN VIENNA HAD AS ONE OBJECTIVE TRYING TO ENSURE THAT NUCLEAR ELEMENTS BECOME AN ENDURING PART OF THE ACCEPTED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE GROUP BELIEVED THAT THE EAST MIGHT CONCENTRATE ON ADDITIONAL

PROBING OF THE NEW ALLIED OFFER BEFORE AND WHILE PROCEEDING
WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF AN EASTERN COUNTER-PROPOSAL. TO DEAL
WITH ANTICIPATED LOCAL MEDIA INTEREST IN THE AUGMENTED
WESTERN PROGRAM, THE ALLIED REPS DECIDED TO SEEK EARLY
AUTHORITY FOR USE OF PARTS 2 AND 3 OF NAC-APPROVED OPTION III
PRESS GUIDANCE ON A SELECTIVE, BACKGROUND BASIS.RESOR

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